

# Center for Excellence in Rural Safety



## The Rural Highway Safety Clearinghouse

[www.RuralHighwaySafety.org](http://www.RuralHighwaySafety.org)

The Center for Excellence in Rural Safety (CERS) at the University of Minnesota developed the Rural Highway Safety Clearinghouse in 2008 with support from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as part of the U.S. Department of Transportation's strategy to reduce deaths on the nation's rural roads.

The Rural Highway Safety Clearinghouse is intended to be an easy-to-use starting point for information and best practices about safety on our nation's rural roads.

### Key Facts

- Though 23 percent of Americans live in rural areas, 56 percent of highway deaths occur on roads considered rural.
- In 27 states, more than 75 percent of total roadway mileage is on roadways designated as rural. Only eight states have less than 50 percent of their total roadway miles classified as rural.
- The fatality rate per 100 million vehicle-miles traveled is 2.6 times higher in rural areas than in urban areas.

## The Clearinghouse:

- Reports on the various activities conducted by the U.S. Department of Transportation and other federal, state, and local partners to improve rural transportation safety.
- Collects and markets best practices as well as the latest findings in rural safety research.
- Hosts the FHWA Rural Safety Innovation Program project pages. Project updates and maps of the 20 funded projects are designed to share their resulting good practices with the rural road safety community.
- Provides links to safety publications and other resources grouped by safety topics including the four E's (education, emergency medical services, enforcement, and engineering). Additional topics include distracted driving, safety planning, and work-zone safety.
- Complements SafeRoadMaps.org, a mapping tool also developed by CERS.
- Lists federal, state, academic, and non-profit agencies and organizations related to rural safety.
- Enables public engagement in rural safety issues by allowing site viewers to suggest additional resources and keep up-to-date via Facebook or e-mail.

The Clearinghouse is available on the Web at [www.ruralhighwaysafety.org](http://www.ruralhighwaysafety.org).

## Contact

*Director*

**Lee Munnich**

612-625-7357

[lmunnich@umn.edu](mailto:lmunnich@umn.edu)

*Research Director*

**Thomas A. Horan**

612-276-2745

[tom.horan@cgu.edu](mailto:tom.horan@cgu.edu)

*Program Delivery Director*

**Gina Baas**

612-626-7331

[baasx001@umn.edu](mailto:baasx001@umn.edu)

*Policy Director*

**Barb Rohde**

202-833-5575

[rohde006@umn.edu](mailto:rohde006@umn.edu)

*Assistant Director*

**Frank Douma**

612-626-9946

[douma002@umn.edu](mailto:douma002@umn.edu)